HOUSING ACTION CAMPAIGN

HOUSING IS A RIGHT

Phone — 086 8729223

★RENT CONTROLS

★LOCAL AUTHORITY HOUSES

★SECURITY OF TENURE

★STUDENT ACCOMMODATION

SPEAKERS:
Eamonn Gilmore (Labour Party),
John Gormley (Green Party),
Richard Boyd-Barrett (Socialist Workers Party),
Alison Gibney (Welfare Officer UCD Student Union),
Joe Higgins (Socialist Party),
Essie Keeling (St Ultans campaign),
Joe Carolan (Housing Action Campaign)

MARCH
Garden of Remembrance, Parnell Square, 3pm Saturday 16th October

Housing madness

THERE ARE now 2,900 people homeless in Dublin, Wicklow and Kildare. This is double the number previously estimated by local authorities and it is increasing every month.

Greedy landlords are exploiting the accommodation crisis for profit. Rents have increased by nearly 30% in the last few years. Tenants are regularly told to accept a huge hike in rent or face eviction. Students returning to college face an impossible task trying to find affordable accommodation.

Over 100,000 people are now on waiting lists for local authority housing.

In any decent society the first priority should be to make sure that everybody has a roof over their head

Minister for Finance, Charlie McCreevy, gloats about the fact that he has a £5.5 billion surplus he doesn't know what to do with. It is a disgrace that anybody in this country should be forced to sleep on the street.

Since the late 1980's successive governments have slashed local authority building programmes. In 1975, local authorities built 7,794 houses but by 1989 this had fallen to a mere 768.

But instead of building more local authority housing and introducing some sort of rent control the government's only response to the crisis has been to propose a new Planning Bill which will fast-track planning permission for builders.

Already, building bosses are viciously opposed to this new Bill, which will also allow local authorities to buy up a maximum 20% of a development to build "affordable housing".

The only solution is for the government to build genuine local authority housing, affordable student accommodation, introduce rent controls and buy up unused land from the building bosses.

The Housing Action Campaign was set up to fight for these things and help tenants stand up to greedy landlords. Already protests and pickets organised by the campaign have prevented evictions and highlighted the growing crisis.

But the government has still failed to stand up to profiteering developers and landlords. On Saturday October 16th the Housing Action Campaign has organised a major national demonstration to force the government to act on the crisis.

If you think housing is a right not a privilege, join the demonstration. Bring a delegation from your area, workplace, union, college or just bring your friends and family. Banners and placards welcome.

JOIN THE HOUSING ACTION CAMPAIGN

NAME.....

ADDRESS .....

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TEL. NO.....

RETURN TO HOUSING ACTION CAMPAIGN C/O 541 NORTH CIRCULAR RD, D1